

A calendar for celebrating the season in Central New York

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**Tree lightings**

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 1. John Carno Recreation Center, 823 State Fair Blvd., Geddes. Pre-recorded music, sing-alongs and refreshments. 487-8238.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: 7 p.m. Dec. 5. Westvale, Parsons Drive and West Genesee Street, Geddes. Pre-recorded music, sing-alongs and refreshments. 487-8238.

CHRISTMAS TREE TEA: 3 to 5 p.m. Dec. 4. DeWitt Community Church, 3600 Erie Blvd. E., DeWitt. Church's Cross Stitch Guild will decorate parlor Christmas tree. Harpist Deette Bunn to perform. Free. 445-0331.

CLINTON SQUARE TREE LIGHTING: 6:30 to 9 p.m. today. Clinton Square, Clinton Street, Syracuse. Also musical program, visit by Santa and Mrs. Claus. Free skating at the rink will follow. Free. syracuse.ny.us/parks.

HOLIDAY PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: 5 p.m. Dec. 4. North Syracuse Baptist Church, 420 S. Main St., North Syracuse. Parade starts at church parking lot, down Main Street to holiday tree outside North Syracuse Community Center. Tree-lighting ceremony planned. Syracuse Highland Pipe Band will perform. Refreshments and activities for kids at community center. Santa Claus visits the library. 458-8050.

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND OPEN HOUSE: 7 p.m. Dec. 5. Clay Town Hall, 4401 Route 31, Clay. Hot cocoa, cookies, crafts, storytelling, caroling and Santa Claus visit. 652-3800 ext. 137.

LIGHT UP A LIFE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: 4:30 p.m. Dec. 1. Hoopes Park, 100 S. Herman Ave., Auburn. Memorial to loved ones and to welcome holiday season. Caroling by tree and refreshments in clubhouse. 255-2733, hospiceofthefingerlakes.org.

LIGHT UP THE PARK: 6 p.m. Saturday. Lakeview Park, state Route 49, Cleveland. Village holiday decorations will be lit. Arrival of Santa Claus by Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department. Hot chocolate and cookies, caroling by Spirit Committee.

MEMORIAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: 7 p.m. Saturday. Solvay Volunteer Fire Department, 1925 Milton Ave., Solvay. Hosted by ladies auxiliary. Blue bulbs purchased in memory of loved ones. Donations benefit area food pantries. Santa Claus arrives by firetruck. Cookies and cocoa. Free.

TREE LIGHTING AND SANTA VISIT: 6 to 9 p.m. Dec. 3. West Monroe, West Monroe. Also live nativity scene, singing, carolers, food, beverages and bonfire. 676-7414.

Pictures with Santa**View full size**

Peter Chen / The Post-Standard.

2010 file photo - Lauren Watson, 16, of Liverpool, plays the title character in 'The Adventures of Rudolph', a narrated holiday ballet.

PET PIC WITH SANTA : 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 3. Cross Creek Nursery, 8390 Cazenovia Road, Manlius. And refreshments. Suggested donation \$5 benefits Wanderers' Rest Humane Association. crosscreeknursery.net.

PICTURE YOUR PET WITH SANTA: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 10 to 11. Central New York SPCA, 5878 E. Molloy Road, Mattydale. Digital photo in a frame. Proceeds to CNYSPCA. \$7. 454-0409, cnyspca.org.

PICTURES WITH SANTA: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 3. Ballantyne Gardens, 4825 Hopkins Road, Salina. Family and pets with Santa. Refreshments and wreath-, bow- and garland-making demonstrations. 453-0621, ballantynegardens.com.

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 17. Webster Pond, 1948 Valley Dr., Syracuse. Photos will be available. Sponsored by Anglers Association of Onondaga. 315-727-2922, websterpond.org.

Dance

TCHAIKOVSKY'S THE NUTCRACKER: 7 p.m. Dec. 2 and noon and 4 p.m. Dec. 3 John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 411 Montgomery St. Syracuse City Ballet. Tickets \$41.50, \$31.50, \$21.50, \$15, and \$10 for children. 435-8000 or syracusecityballet.com.

THE GREAT RUSSIAN NUTCRACKER: 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 4. Landmark Theatre, 362 S. Salina St. Dancers from Moscow Ballet and Dance Centre North. \$27.50 to \$79.40. 800-745-3000 or nutcracker.com.

THE ADVENTURES OF RUDOLPH: 11 a.m. Dec. 10. John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 411 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Cultural Resources Council presents its 33rd annual holiday performance. Narrated ballet directed by Deborah Boughton and performed by students of Dance Centre North. \$10 to \$19. 476-7372, mycnyarts.org.

Historical holidays

HISTORIC HORSE-DRAWN TROLLEY TOUR: noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Armory Square, Downtown Syracuse, Franklin and Walton streets, Syracuse. 'Abe Walton' narrates history of Armory Square. Street entertainers join him. Sponsored by Armory Square Association. Free. armorysq.org.

DICKENS CHRISTMAS: noon to 4 p.m. Saturday to Sunday, Dec. 3 to 4, 10 to 11, 17 to 18; noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 24. Village of Skaneateles, Route 20, Skaneateles. Village turns Victorian. Actors dressed in period costumes stroll Genesee, Jordan and Fennell streets. Carriage ride, brass band or bagpiper and special show in the library. skaneateles.com.

Eat with Santa

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Dec. 4. Assumption Church Parish Center, 808 N. Salina St., Syracuse. Visit with and get pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Adults \$6, children \$3.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: 9 a.m. Dec. 3. Traditions at the Links Restaurant, 5900 N. Burdick St., East Syracuse. Benefit St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center's College of Nursing. Cookie decorating, ornament-making, face-painting and writing letters to Santa Claus. Small gift for each child. Call 448-5303 or email Connie.Semel@sjhsyr.org. \$12.50; ages 3 to 12, \$8.50.

HOLIDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST: 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 3 and 10. Beaver Lake Nature Center, 8477 E. Mud Lake Road, Lysander. Hosted by Friends of Beaver Lake. Visit from Santa. \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$4.50, depending on your appetite. 638-2519, onondagacountyparks.com.

LUNCH WITH SANTA: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 3. Warners United Methodist Church, 6514 Canton St., Warners. Visits with Santa, children's shopping center and children's crafts. Free. 638-1514, warnersumc.org.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: 8 to 11 a.m. Dec. 11. Transfiguration Church, 740 Teall Ave., Syracuse. Meet and greet Santa. Cookie sale and Christmas arts and crafts. \$8; 6 and younger, free. 479-6129.

Theater

PIRATES OF THE YULETIDE: 7 p.m. Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; ends Jan. 5. Spaghetti Warehouse, 689 N. Clinton St., Syracuse. Interactive holiday mystery/comedy by ACME Mystery Co. Seating at 6:45 p.m. \$25.95, plus tax and gratuity. Reservations call 475-1807, acmemysterytheater.com.

NUNCRACKERS — THE NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL: 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. show Dec. 2-3, 9-10, 16-17. Glen Loch Restaurant, 4626 North St., Jamesville. Encore Presentations. Dinner and show, \$37.25; show, \$20. 469-6969.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: 8 p.m. Dec. 8 to 9; 2 and 8 p.m. Dec. 10 to 11. Dowd Fine Arts Theatre, State University College at Cortland, Cortland. Adaptation of Dickens classic. In Lab Theatre. 607-753-2811, 2.cortland.edu/departments/performing-arts.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: 11 a.m. Dec. 3. Open Hand Theater, 518 Prospect Ave., Syracuse. This puppet spectacular features handcrafted marionettes, shadow puppets, masks, lavish costumes, vivid sets, a professional soundtrack and a giant 9-foot parade puppet. \$8; children, \$6. 315-476-0466, openhandtheater.org.

JUDY'S SCARY LITTLE CHRISTMAS: 8 p.m. Dec. 2 to 3, 8 to 10. Jazz Central, 441 E. Washington St., Syracuse. Judy Garland is primed for her biggest comeback ever — the star of a TV special, broadcast live on Christmas Eve 1959. Rarely Done Productions. Tickets \$25; \$20. 546-3224, rarelydone.org.

THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF SANTA CLAUS: 7 p.m. Dec. 2 to 3. Cleveland Historical Society, 6 North St., Cleveland. Children's Glassworks Theatre performs Pat Cook comedy based on writings of L. Frank Baum. \$5; seniors, \$4; children, \$3. 675-8871.

THE OLD TIME CHRISTMAS RADIO HOUR: 8 p.m. Dec. 9 to 10, 16 to 17; 2 p.m. Dec. 11. Atonement Stage, 116 W. Glen Ave., Syracuse. Presented by Appleseed Productions. \$10. 492-9766, appleseedproductions.org.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES: 8 p.m. Dec. 17. W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts at Le Moyne College, 1419 Salt Springs Road, DeWitt. Fundraiser presented by Department of Theater Arts at Le Moyne College. Tickets \$20. 445-4523, lemoyne.edu/vpa.

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE: today, Saturday, Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16 and Dec. 30 at 8 p.m.; Nov. 30, Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15, Dec. 20-22, Dec. 26 and Dec. 28 at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 3, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 at 3 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 4 and Dec. 11 at 2 p.m.; Dec. 7, Dec. 27 and Dec. 29 at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 18 at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Dec. 23 at 2 and 8 p.m. Archbold Theatre, Syracuse Stage, 820 E. Genesee St. Narnia comes to life in a mystical adventure. Co-production of Syracuse University's Department of Drama co-production. \$28 to \$50; younger than 18 and SU students, \$18; Under 40, \$28. 443-3275 or syracusestage.org.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: 11 a.m. Dec. 3. Open Hand Theater, 518 Prospect Ave. Marionettes, shadow puppets, masks, costumes, sets and 9-foot parade puppet. \$8; children, \$6. 476-0466 or openhandtheater.org.

GRANDFATHER FROST'S STORIES OF RUSSIA: 11 a.m. Dec. 10. Open Hand Theater, 518 Prospect Ave. Featuring artist in residence, Vladimir Vasyagin, with musician Leslie Archer. \$8; children, \$6. 476-0466 or openhandtheater.org.

Music

A CRUZIN' CHRISTMAS WITH COACHMEN FEATURING ELIZABETH FERN: 7 p.m. Dec. 2; 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Pensabene's Casa Grande, 135 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse. Christmas music from '50s and '60s. Holiday floor show and dance. Buffet. Friday for ages 21 and older. Sunday for all ages. Reservations at 466-0312. Show and buffet, \$30; show only, \$20. 472-3432, coachmenband.com.

A FRACTURED CHRISTMAS FAIRY TALE: 2 p.m. Dec. 3. Kellish Hill Farm, 3192 Pompey Center Road, Pompey. Musical with audience participation, followed by music, potluck supper at 6 p.m. and jamming. \$10. 682-1578, rhubamericana.com.

A STEVE GREEN CHRISTMAS: 7 p.m. Dec. 2. Northside Baptist Church, 7965 Oswego Road, Clay. A capella gospel

group, Five To Life, will also perform. \$20; advance, \$17. 800-677-1881.

ADVENT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS: 4:30 p.m. Dec. 4. St. John's Episcopal Church, 15 Orange St., Marcellus. Musical celebration of Advent season, based on Christmas Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Sponsored by Marcellus ministers. Free. 882-5097.

AN ADVENT MUSICAL PROGRAM: 4:30 p.m. Sunday. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 43 Bridge St., Phoenix. Adult choir, flute, piano, organ, Christmas Cantata. 315-592-7848.

ANDY COONEY HOLIDAY CONCERT: 7 p.m. Dec. 9. Auburn Junior High School, 191 Franklin St., Auburn. Music, comedy and dancing. Benefits St. Joseph School in Auburn. \$25. 253-8327.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT: 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Mexico Presbyterian Church, 4361 Church St., Mexico.

AVE MARIA: 4 p.m. Dec. 18. Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church, 5299 Jamesville Road, DeWitt. Schola Cantorum of Syracuse concert. Music of the season inspired by the Mother of the Child. \$15; seniors and students, \$10. 446-1757, scholacantorumofsyracuse.org.

CENTRAL WINDS HOLIDAY CONCERT: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10. Oneida High School, 560 Seneca St., Oneida. Holiday favorites and new wind band pieces. Sponsored by Oneida Area Arts Council. \$10; students, \$5. 363-6901, centralwindsmewe.com.

CENTRAL WINDS HOLIDAY CONCERT: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11. West Genesee High School, 5201 W. Genesee St., Camillus. Special event for service men and women. Holiday and patriotic tunes and new wind pieces. \$10; students, \$5; free to active and inactive servicemen and women. 487-4592, centralwindsmewe.com.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: PRINCE OF PEACE: 7 p.m. Dec. 4. Fulton Alliance Church, 1044 Route 48, Fulton. More than 50 voices from local churches. Refreshments. Free-will offering.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: PRINCE OF PEACE: 7 p.m. Dec. 3; 3 p.m. Dec. 4. Pennellville United Methodist Church, 389 county Route 54, Pennellville. More than 50 voices from local churches. Refreshments. Free-will offering.

CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG OF CAROLS AND HYMNS: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4. Fay Road Baptist Church, 750 Fay Road, Geddes. Refreshments. 468-2071.

CIVIC MORNING MUSICALS RECITAL: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Dec. 14. Everson Museum of Art, 401 Harrison St., Syracuse. Concert with Jerry Exline, guests and choral ensemble. Hosmer Auditorium. Free. 699-5856, civictimorningmusicals.org.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT: 4 p.m. Dec. 11. Marcellus First Presbyterian Church, North and Main streets, Marcellus. Presbyterian Choir, church's Brass Ensemble and soloists in concert. Request for items for Ecumenical Food Pantry. Free. 673-2201.

GAIL LYONS' HARP ENSEMBLE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: 3 p.m. Dec. 11. Franciscan Church of the Assumption, 812 N. Salina St., Syracuse. Free; donations accepted.

HOLIDAY HARPS: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1. Marcellus Free Library, 32 Maple St., Marcellus. Free. 673-3221, library.marcellusny.com.

HOLIDAYS AT HENDRICKS: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4. Hendricks Chapel, Syracuse University, Syracuse. Syracuse University Brass Ensemble, Hendricks Chapel Choir, Handbell Ringers and organist Kola Owolabi. Bring canned food items. 786-2458.

JAZZ CHRISTMAS CONCERT: 8 p.m. Dec. 17. Palace Theatre, 2384 James St., Syracuse. New York Voices. \$25; \$35; special with gala pre-show reception, \$50. Tickets on sale at Sound Garden. 506-8592. Benefits Dunbar Community Center.

JIM BRICKMAN: A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 22. Crouse-Hinds Concert Theater, 411 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Guests Ben Utecht, Anne Cochran and Tracy Silverman. \$30, \$40, \$50 and \$75 for meet-and-greet. 435-2121, jimbrickman.com.

KENNY ROGERS CHRISTMAS AND HITS: 8 p.m. Dec. 20. Turning Stone Resort and Casino, 5218 Patrick Road, Verona. Event Center. \$40 and \$50. 800-771-7711, turningstone.com.

MASTERWORKS CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT: 4 p.m. Dec. 18. St. Mary of the Lake Church, Skaneateles. Free-will offering and food pantry donation. 530-2074.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS EVE: 10:30 p.m. Dec. 24. St. Paul's Cathedral, 310 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Dan Duggan on hammered dulcimer and Cathedral Choir. Free-will offering.

RING AND SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS: 4 p.m. Dec. 4. Oneida High School, 560 Seneca St., Oneida. Presented by Oneida Area Civic Chorale with guest Joyful Ringers. \$10; younger than 12, free. 697-3377.

SONGS OF THE SEASON SING-ALONG: 7 p.m. Dec. 7. Baldwinsville Public Library, 33 E. Genesee St., Baldwinsville. Carols, wassails and winter songs with the pianist Ann Barnes playing favorites and a few rounds of holiday "Name That Tune." Refreshments. Free. 635-5631, bville.lib.ny.us.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON: 3 p.m. Sunday. West Baptist Church, 39 W. Mohawk St., Oswego. Christmas concert with caroling, guest organists Abel Searor and Elliott Ringwald, West Baptist Bell Choir and Praise 7. Freewill offering.

SU BRASS AND UCF BELLS HOLIDAY CONCERT: 3 p.m. Dec. 11. United Church of Fayetteville, 310 E. Genesee St., Fayetteville. Classical and popular selections. Carol sing-along with organ and brass at end. Reception. Benefits St. Joseph's School in Haiti and food pantry. Freewill offering. Bring canned goods for F-M Food Pantry. 637-3186, theucf.org.

SUNDAY MUSICALE: 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Fayetteville Free Library, 300 Orchard St., Fayetteville. Belle Aire: Holiday Bell Ringers with Rene Herbert Trio. Suggested donation, \$5. 637-6374, fayettevillefreelibrary.org.

SYMPHONY SYRACUSE HOLIDAY POPS: 8 p.m. Dec. 16. Cortland High School, 8 Valley View Dr., Cortland. Baritone Steven Stull, visit from Santa, favorites and sing-along. Ron Spiegelman conducts. Tickets \$20, general; \$5, students at the door. 218-0310.

SYMPHONY SYRACUSE HOLIDAY POPS: 2:30 p.m. Dec. 18. Crouse-Hinds Concert Theatre, 411 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Baritone Steven Stull, visit from Santa, favorites and sing-along. Ron Spiegelman conducts. General admission, \$25 to \$40; students, \$10. Call Syracuse Opera box office at 476-7372 or online syracuseopera.com.

SYMPHONY SYRACUSE HOLIDAY POPS: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1. Wells College, Route 90, Aurora. Baritone Steven Stull, visit from Santa, favorites and sing-along. Ron Spiegelman conducts. Phipps Auditorium, Macmillan Hall. Free. 364-3213.

SYRACUSE COMMUNITY CHOIR PEACE WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10. St. Paul's Cathedral, 310 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Honoring Syracuse Peace Council's 75th anniversary. Guest Charlie King. Tickets on sliding scale, \$12 to \$25. 428-8151, syracusecommunitychoir.org.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY CONCERT: 7 p.m. Sunday. Saints Peter and John Episcopal Church, 169 Genesee St., Auburn. The program draws on four centuries of repertoire, including "The Nutcracker Suite," "Joy to the World," "Sleigh Ride," "Silent Night" and more. Free. 315-786-2458.

SYRACUSE VOCAL ENSEMBLE: 3 p.m. Dec. 11. Liverpool First United Methodist Church, 604 Oswego St., Liverpool. Music influenced by Renaissance English carol. Pie reception. \$20; seniors, \$17; others, \$5. 637-3899.

SYRACUSE VOCAL ENSEMBLE: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10. United Church of Fayetteville, 310 E. Genesee St., Fayetteville. Music influenced by Renaissance English carol. Pie reception. \$20; seniors, \$17; others, \$5. 637-3899.

THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING: 7 p.m. Dec. 9; 2 p.m. Dec. 10. Community Folk Art Center, 805 E. Genesee St.,

Syracuse. Gospel singing, drama, poetry and dance to celebrate Christmas. Admission, \$7; 12 and younger, \$10. 442-2230.

WINTER HOLIDAY CONCERT: 7 p.m. Wednesday. Canton Woods Senior Center, 76 Canton St., Baldwinsville. Presented by Baldwinsville Community Band. Free. 638-4956, bvillecommunityband.org.

HOLIDAY JAZZ JAM SESSION: 6 to 9 p.m. Dec. 13. McNamara's Pub, 5600 Newport Road, Camillus. Hosted by Jazz Appreciation Society of Syracuse. Area musicians invited to bring their instruments and sit in with the JASS rhythm section. Electric piano provided. Jazz vocalists also invited. Free. 652-0547 or 672-8872.

THE WIZARDS OF WINTER: 8 p.m. Dec. 16. Westcott Theater, 524 Westcott St., Syracuse. Music of Trans Siberian Orchestra. Progressive rock, power metal and holiday mix. Doors open at 7 p.m. All ages. Tickets \$15, standing; \$20, seats. 299-8886.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: Today. Landmark Theatre, 362 S. Salina St. Chittenango High School Choir sings at 5 p.m.; Spirit of Syracuse Choir at 6 p.m. Free. 475-7980 or landmarktheatre.org

MESSIAH: Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. Hendricks Chapel, Syracuse University. Syracuse University Oratorio Society, John Warren, conductor. Janet Brown, Carolyn Weber, Robert Allen, David Neal sing. Daniel Hege conducts. \$20; students, \$10. To buy tickets, call Syracuse Opera's box office 476-7372 or online syracuseopera.com.

AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS: 3 and 7 p.m. Dec. 11. St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1001 Tulip St., Liverpool. Gian Carlo Menotti's one-act opera. Co-production of Liverpool First United Methodist and St. Joseph the Worker Church. Conducted by James O. Weslch. Free.

AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Cazenovia United Methodist Church, 21 Lincklaen St., Cazenovia. Cazenovia College Chorale under direction of Bruce Campbell. Free. 391-8047.

Community events

26TH ANNUAL GINGERBREAD GALLERY: Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Jan. 8. Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Erie Canal Museum, 318 Erie Blvd. E., Syracuse. Festive 1800s street scene with more than 40 gingerbread creations on display in storefront windows. Made by local professional and amateur bakers. \$5; seniors, \$4; 12 and younger, \$2. 471-0593, eriecanalmuseum.org.

40 BELOW-OUT NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 31. The Landmark Theatre, 362 S. Salina St., Syracuse. Open bar, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and live ball drop. Presented by our Public Arts Task Force. Musician Joe Driscoll with saxophone player James "Hollywood" Moore and master-spinner DJ Afar. \$150 per couple or \$80 per person before Dec. 15. After, tickets \$90 per person. 470-1880, 40belowsommit.com/nye2011.

ANNUAL CHILDRENS' COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY: 7:15 p.m. Dec. 2. Hastings Volunteer Fire Department, 1994 Route 11, Hastings. Hosted by the Hastings Fire Department Auxiliary. Decorating of Christmas tree, followed by Jackman Brothers' magic show. Santa Claus to greet children at 8 p.m. Refreshments.

HANUKKAH MENORAH LIGHTING:

4 p.m. Dec. 20-22, 3:35 p.m. Dec. 23, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 24, 4 p.m. Dec. 25-27. Hanover Square, Syracuse. Rabbi Yaakov Rapoport, director of Chabad-Lubavitch of Central New York, will lead the celebratory lighting.

HOLIDAY WINDOWS UNVEILED: 4 to 8 p.m. today. Onondaga Historical Association, 321 Montgomery St., Syracuse. Windows decorated for holidays. Refreshments and special holiday cartoons in auditorium. Free. cnyhistory.org.

TEDDY BEAR TEA: Noon-2 p.m. Dec. 4. Genesee Grande Hotel, 1060 E. Genesee St. Hosted by Everson Museum of Art Members' Council. Musical by Milk & Cookies, magic and balloons by Jeff the Magician, crafts and a light lunch. Children encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear for a parade around the ballroom. Reservations required. \$25; children, \$20 (includes tickets to the Festival of Trees). 474-6064 or everson.org.

CHRISTMAS IN CAZENOVIA: 7 to 9 p.m. Dec. 9; 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 10 to 11. Lorenzo State Historic Site, 17 Rippleton Road, Cazenovia. Seasonal displays, holiday refreshments and live music. 655-3200, lorenzony.org.

COMMUNITY HOLIDAY PARTY: 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 4. Solvay Geddes Community Youth Center, 1010 Woods Road, Solvay. Sponsored by Solvay Bank. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, sing along with Maria DeSantis and the DeSantis Band.

FAMILY FUN DAY AND HOLIDAY PARADE: Saturday. Downtown Auburn, Genesee Street, Auburn. Parade at 6 p.m. starts at East Genesee and Fulton streets and ends at Memorial City Hall. Santa Claus arrives at the end and visits children at Genesee Center, 100 Genesee St. St. Alphonsus student choir sings at 7 p.m. Tree-lighting across from City Hall. Auburn Fire Department hosts bonfire in parking lot across from City Garage. From 6 to 7:30 p.m., Auburn Civic Band performs near the garage on Loop Road. Free family activities from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Exchange Street Mall and Genesee Center. Horse-drawn wagon ride around downtown from 3 to 5 p.m. 252-7874, auburndowntown.org.

FIRST WESTCOTT WINTER WEEKEND: today to Saturday. 500 Block of Westcott St., 500 Westcott St., Syracuse. Westcott Area Cultural Coalition weekend. From 2 to 9 p.m. Saturday, performances in multiple venues. Live music and dance, storytelling, magician and more. Schedule and a map of events at venues and online. westcottfair.org.

GINGERBREAD GALLERY OPENING: today. Erie Canal Museum, 318 Erie Blvd. E., Syracuse. Cookies and cocoa reception after Clinton Square tree lighting. 471-0593, ext. 15, eriecanalmuseum.org.

HERE COMES SANTA EVENT: 3 to 6 p.m. Dec. 3. The Palace Theater, 19 Utica St., Hamilton. Visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus, Elves, Frosty and Rudolph. Play reindeer games and make crafts. 824-1420.

LIGHTS ON THE LAKE: 5 to 10 p.m. today to Dec. 30, Jan. 1 to 2; ending Jan. 8. Onondaga Lake Park, 106 Lake Dr., Liverpool. Two-mile drive through lit life-size displays and themed sections. Closed to vehicles Dec. 31 for First Night CNY. Monday through Thursday, \$8 per vehicle; Friday through Sunday, \$12 per vehicle. 453-6712, onondagacountyparks.com.

OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 11. Ward W. O'Hara & Country Living Museum of Cayuga County, Emerson Park, Owasco. Horse-drawn wagon rides on museum grounds, model truck and car rides. Mary Ann Finn on keyboard plays carols. Cookie decorating, face painting, coloring contest, ornament making and special herb garden activities. Free; donations appreciated. 252-7644.

SANTA'S COMING TO TOWN: 10:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 3. Solvay High School, 600 Gertrude Ave., Solvay. Ages 3 to 12, with parent. Visit Santa, play games, face painting and refreshments. By town of Geddes Department of Parks and Recreation. Reservations Nov. 29. 487-8238.

SKANEATELES SINGS: 6 p.m. Dec. 2. Village of Skaneateles, Route 20, Skaneateles. Visits with Father Christmas, caroling and Dickens characters. 685-0552, skaneateles.com.

UNION SPRINGS VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3. Frontenac Historical Society Museum, 178 Cayuga St., Union Springs. Music, caroling, tree-lighting at gazebo next to Trinity United Church of Christ on Cayuga Street. After, refreshments and Santa Claus visit at museum. Request for a non-perishable food item for local pantry. Free. 889-5939.

FIRST NIGHT: 5 p.m.-midnight Dec. 31. Onondaga Lake Park, 106 Lake Drive. National recording artist New Boyz performs. Also activities for youngsters, laser tag and glow-in-the-dark mini golf. At midnight, orange ball drops and fireworks. Participants can walk through Lights on the Lake. \$8; advance, \$5; 5 and younger, free. onondagacountyparks.com.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 2 to 11. ShoppingTown Mall, 3649 Erie Blvd. E., DeWitt. More than 100 decorated trees, wreaths and special displays. Each donated by local businesses, community groups and individuals. \$10; advance, \$8. 474-6064, everson.org.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS HAPPY HOUR: 5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 8. ShoppingTown Mall, 3649 Erie Blvd. E., DeWitt. Check out

Festival of Trees special exhibits, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and music. Free with admission, \$10. 474-6064, everson.org.

DASHER AND DANCER'S DISCO: 9 p.m. to midnight Dec. 10. ShoppingTown Mall, 3649 Erie Blvd. E., DeWitt. Festival of Trees transforms into night hot spot, with DJ and cash bar. Free with festival admission, \$10. 474-6064, everson.org.

PATHFINDER REINDEER RUN/WALK: 9:30 a.m. Dec. 3. Oswego YMCA, 249 W. First St., Oswego. A 5K Run/Walk through Oswego streets. Fun run for kids and adults. Come dressed as Santa or elves. \$20. 343-1981, oswegoymca.org.

TRADITIONAL TEA PARTY: noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Jefferson Clinton Hotel, 416 S. Clinton St., Syracuse. Hot beverages, pastries and entertainment between 2 and 4 p.m. Sponsored by Armory Square Association. Free. armorysq.org.

Workshops

CHRISTMAS ELF WORKSHOP: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 11. Cross Creek Nursery, 8390 Cazenovia Road, Manlius. For ages 18 months and older. Will take home elf hat upon completion of reindeer games and create ornament and Christmas card and visit with Santa. Refreshments. Free. crosscreeknursery.net.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP: 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 3. Lorenzo State Historic Site, 17 Rippleton Road, Cazenovia. Children can assemble, decorate lighted gingerbread houses. Registration required. 655-3200, lorenzony.org.

LITTLE ELVES CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP: 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 17. Lysander Town Hall, 8220 Loop Road, Lysander. For ages 3 to 5. Make a craft and write letter to Santa. Registration required. By town of Lysander Parks and Recreation. \$20. 635-5999, townoflysander.org.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 3. Fayetteville-Manlius High School, 8201 E. Seneca Tpke., Manlius. Make holiday crafts. Food, magic, activities and pictures with Santa. Benefits A Better Chance and Manlius Historical Society. \$5; families of 5 or more, \$20. 682-1355.

Movies

MOVIE AND A COOKIE: 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Auburn Public Theater, 8 Exchange St., Auburn. WCNY family-friendly event featuring a visit from Santa Claus, free cookie and screening of "Polar Express." Benefit for WCNY. \$10; ages 6 to 14, \$5; younger than 5, free. 253-6669, auburnpublictheater.com.

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS: 8 p.m. today. Landmark Theatre, 362 S. Salina St. The 2000 movie will be screened after Clinton Square tree lighting. Free. 475-7980 or landmarktheatre.com.

» **Holiday TV schedule for the month of December** [The Post-Standard]

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